# 8169A-01B

# S E R V I C E      N O T E

Supersedes:
8169A-01A

## 8169A Polarization Controller

**Serial Numbers:  3425G00101/3425G00961**

**8169A Lockup Problem and Firmware Upgrade**

**To Be Performed By:  Agilent-Qualified Personnel**

**Parts Required:**

**IC Memory 512KB SRAM (PCMCIA) with 8169A firmware image revision 2.01**

Memory cards are battery-buffered. They will be distributed by OCMD Customer Support in March and April.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

| SERVICE NOTE CLASSIFICATION: | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **MODIFICATION RECOMMENDED** | | | |
| ACTION CATEGORY: | [[]]  IMMEDIATELY<br>  X  ON SPECIFIED FAILURE<br>[[]]  AGREEABLE TIME | STANDARDS:<br>LABOR:  0.1 Hours | |
| LOCATION CATEGORY: | X CUSTOMER INSTALLABLE<br>[[]]  ON-SITE<br>X SERVICE CENTER | SERVICE        [[]]  RETURN<br>INVENTORY:    [[]]  SCRAP<br>              [[]]  SEE TEXT | USED      [[]]  RETURN<br>PARTS:  [[]]  SCRAP<br>            [[]]  SEE TEXT |
| AVAILABILITY: | PRODUCT'S  SUPPORT LIFE | AGILENT RESPONSIBLE UNTIL: April 2003 | |
| AUTHOR:  CaHo | PRODUCT LINE:  3E | | |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: | | | |

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**Situation:**
The 8169A with firmware revision 1.02 locks up intermittently when controlled remotly by GPIB. Reset can only be done by switching power. Lockup occurs when sending fast cycles of plate positioning commands or cycles of identification query commands.

**Solution/Action:**
Solution is provided by a firmware upgrade which fixes the lockup causes and some minor bugs. Upgraded 8169A will show an Agilent boot screen instead of the HP signs.
Old firmware revision:                  1.02
New firmware revision:               2.01

The firmware upgrade cards are mainly distributed to Agilents Lightwave Customer Service Centers (CSC). Each card comes with upgrade instructions and details.

CSC's should generally upgrade incoming 8169A after consultation with customer. Detailed information will be available under:
**ftp://bidrv227.germany.agilent.com/8169A/Known_problems/Lockup/FW_Upgrade/**.

Upgrade procedure:
- Initial State

Instrument connected to power line and switched off.
- Step 1

Insert the memory card in the slot on the back side of the instrument labeled with "FOR SOFTWARE UPDATE ONLY"
**Note:** You can only insert the card to one third of it's length. The 68-Pin connector ensures a sufficiently tight fit.
- Step 2

On the keypad press and hold button "0" while switching the 8169A on. Wait until the display shows the message: "…erasing old Firmware" and release key "0".
- Step 3

When the download has finished the boot screen appears with the Agilent logo instead of the Hewlett-Packard sign. Switch the instrument off and remove the memory card.
- Step 4

Switch the 8169A on and check that the instrument boots successfully to the plate setting menu.

New firmware upgrade cards can be generated by an 8169A with the latest firmware already installed. Insert a blank 512KB SRAM Card (PCMCIA/JEIDA Standard)* into the slot mention in step 1 and the send the via GPIB the command *makecard* to the 8169A. Test the card by performing the upgrade procedure.

*e.g.: Panasonic BN-512HSR (requires CR2025 type battery)